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Weekly Update



"Where neighbors help neighbors build community."

Vice Mayor Steve Frate, Glendale Arizona

April 29, 2011



8th Annual Glendale Historic Preservation Bus Tour. The city of Glendale encourages people to sign up for the 8th Annual Glendale Historic Preservation Bus Tour, which will be held Saturday, May 14 and includes Glendale's most treasured historic landmarks such as the Beet Sugar Factory, the Myrtle Avenue Cultural Gateway and the Thunderbird Tower located on the campus of the Thunderbird School of Global Management. Check-in will begin at 8:30 a.m. at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Dr. The tour will depart at 9 a.m. and return to the Civic Center at Noon.

Participation is limited to 35 people, and reservations will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.

To RSVP, call (623) 930-2810.

Nominate Neighbors, Volunteers and Businesses for Glendale Spark Awards.

The Glendale Commission on Neighborhoods encourages residents to nominate a neighbor, volunteer, business, nonprofit or faith-based organization that has made a commitment to the Glendale community by helping and improving Glendale neighborhoods.

If you know of someone like this, nominate the person or group for a 2011 Community Spark Award. The deadline to submit nominations is Wednesday, May 25, 2011. The Spark Award recipients will be honored by the Commission on Neighborhoods at the 2011 Community Leadership Forum and Spark Awards Ceremony on Saturday, June 25 at the Vineyard Church, located at 6250 W. Peoria Avenue. "Taking Pride in Your Community" is the theme for this year's event which is sponsored by the Glendale Civic Pride Ambassadors, an organization that is dedicated to enhancing the economic, social and cultural vitality of Glendale.

Nominees should fall into one the following six categories:



- **Business Support & Community Involvement**
- **Community Partner**
- **HOA Leadership**
- **Neighborhood Revitalization**
- **Traditional Neighborhood Leadership**
- **Young Leaders on the Move**

Nomination forms and more information can be found at www.glendaleaz.com. Submit your nomination(s) to the Neighborhood Partnership Office, 6829 N. 58th Drive, Suite 100, Glendale, AZ 85301, or via e-mail to leadership@glendaleaz.com. For other questions, call 623-930-2868.

2011 Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award. Each year the Glendale City Council presents the 2011 Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award during the month of May to coincide with National Historic Preservation Month. After careful review and evaluation, the Historic Preservation Commission selected the Thunderbird Tower Restoration Project Committee and the Thunderbird Community as the 2011 award recipient. This award is being presented in recognition of their hard work in restoring the Thunderbird Control Tower building on the campus of the Thunderbird School of Global Management

For 60 years, the tower has been the icon of the school grounds at 59th Ave. and Greenway Rd. It was built in 1941, and served as the air control tower and officers' quarters during the operation of the Thunderbird 1 Army Air Field, where American, British, Canadian, and Chinese pilots trained during World War II. It was designed to resemble a Thunderbird, based on the Indian God of Thunder.

In January 2006, the tower closed due to structural issues. In the fall of 2007, a student-led task force initiated a project to restore the Tower. Andrew Burman, Will Counts, and Rebecca Mitchell spearheaded the project and started a vigorous campaign to raise money for the restoration.

The tower dedication celebration will be held in conjunction with Thunderbird's 2011 homecoming activities on November 11, 2011. The Ruth Byrne Historic Preservation Award was established in 1996. The purpose of the award is to recognize individuals or organizations that have made significant contributions to the preservation of Glendale's historic and cultural resources. This prestigious award is named after Ruth Byrne, a Glendale native, in honor of her dedicated work and ongoing efforts to preserve Glendale's history. For more information, visit www.glendaleaz.com/historicpreservation.

Glendale's Intelligent Transportation System Strategic Plan. Traffic will move more smoothly in Glendale thanks to impending upgrades to the city's Intelligent Transportation System (ITS). In addition, the Transportation Department will develop a strategic plan that will set priorities for Glendale's transportation communications and management system.

A big component of this process is the strategic plan for the ITS, which will not only establish priorities, but address questions such as:

- **What will communications look like moving forward?**
- **Is there better technology we should be using?**
- **How can we manage traffic more effectively?**

Glendale did not previously have a strategic plan for the city as a whole, only a partial plan for the Sports and Entertainment District; now this plan will address the needs of the entire city and how Glendale fits into the region.

System upgrades that are beginning to be designed are fiber optic cable and conduit, and closed-circuit television cameras on Cactus Road, between 59th and 67th avenues, as well as Thunderbird and Greenway roads, between 51st and 67th avenues. The same ITS infrastructure will be designed along Peoria Avenue between 43rd and 67th avenues. These upgrades will allow communication with the main ITS infrastructure along 59th Avenue.

Finally, another system upgrade involves dynamic messaging signs planned at four entry points into downtown Glendale, designed to provide traffic alerts for downtown events that may cause delays or other traffic restrictions. Similar message signs are currently in use in the Sports and Entertainment District, and are expected to be just as effective for the downtown area.

Each of these projects is in its beginning stage and each has a different estimated completion date. The projects are 100-percent federally funded and administered through the Arizona Department of Transportation.

For more information on Glendale's Transportation Department, visit www.glendaleaz.com/transportation.

Temporary Closure of Parking Lot at Thunderbird Conservation Park – May 4-5. The parking lot located at 67th Avenue and Patrick Lane that serves Thunderbird Conservation Park will be temporarily closed Wednesday, May 4 and Thursday, May 5 for maintenance.

The lot will receive a protective coat, which will help maintain the hard surface for parking. These improvements take place twice a year. Other parking options for park users include the parking lots off of 59th Avenue or the lot at 55th Avenue & Pinnacle Peak Road. An electronic message board was placed in the Patrick Lane parking lot more than a week in advance to notify park users.

For more information on this project or other parks and recreation questions, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 623-930-2820 or online at www.glendaleaz.com/parksandrecreation.

Around Town

[Click here](#) for the City Council meeting schedule. [Click here](#) for past Council meeting agendas and minutes. [Click here](#) to watch a City Council meeting online.

Shred It & Forget It. Glendale's Community Action Teams are proud to partner with the Target Corporation and Cintas Document Management Company to offer free document shredding to help combat identity theft. Credit card offers, tax returns, medical bills and old bank statements should be shredded rather than simply thrown in the trash. The "Shred It & Forget It" events scheduled throughout the year offer a fast, convenient, drive-thru service where residents can bring up to three standard-size file boxes of documents for secure shredding. The next event is Saturday, April 30th at the Target located at 10404 N. 43rd Ave. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until the shred trucks are full. For more information on identity theft and "Shred It & Forget It," call (623) 930-2571. [Read more.](#)

Live at the Library. Join us for one of the West Valley's most popular monthly musical series – Live at the Library. The series is held on the fourth Thursday of the month and begins at 6:30 p.m., at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. On May 26, poet and hit songwriter Annie Moscow will entertain with her amazing vocal and piano tunes. For more information about the free music programs at the Glendale Main Library, call 623-930-3573.

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